

**VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 MEETING**

**SPY POND COMMITTEE
Town Hall Annex, First Floor**

In attendance: Brad Barber, Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, David Kenney, Bob and Harriet Noyes, Alan Preston, Steve Ricci.

Facilitator: Brad Barber

Minutes: Elizabeth Karpati

2014 meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2. Town Hall Annex, first floor.

2015 meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 6, Feb. 3, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, Aug. 4, Sept. 1, Oct. 3, *Oct. 27*, Dec. 1.

1. The **minutes** of the September 2 meeting were accepted with a minor correction.
2. **2015 meetings:** We will continue meeting on the first Tuesday of the month except for moving up the November meeting by one week to avoid Election Day.
3. **Town Day:** Planning should start earlier than the last meeting before the event.
 - Could have a Spy Pond map with contours if data available.
 - Could update the Trails Day photo display with pictures of other things or events.
 - Could have a big “What is a Secchi Disk??” sign to attract people.Alan noted that he looked in vain for a “Spy Pond” booth because we are under the “Vision 2020” banner.
4. **Rt.2 swales** just west of the Pleasant St. bridge were installed because of DEP requirements to catch and clean the “first flush” of rain coming off the highway, but they don’t seem to work – stormwater doesn’t flow into them.
5. **Canoe/kayak rentals** in Spy Pond Park may not happen next year: they were planned as a three-year experiment and apparently did not attract enough customers to be continued. They were listed in the recreation brochure but not advertised otherwise. Should we try to keep them going and promote them?
6. Having another “**Spy Pond Splash**” with music, crafts for kids, etc. was suggested. One was held years ago, perhaps in 2007 as part of Arlington’s 200th birthday celebration. It could be combined with Trails Day (same afternoon), or tied in with the canoe/kayak program if that is continued, or held early to serve, with Town Day, as “bookends” for the summer season.

Contacts to explore the idea of a “Splash” with other groups:
Brad – Kelwyn Manor Association; Mystic River Watershed Association;
Friends of Spy Pond Park via Bill Eykamp
Jane – Park & Rec via Leslie Mayer; Arlington Land Trust
Joey – Boys & Girls Club

P.S: From the 10/17/07 minutes of the Spy Pond Committee:

Spy Pond Splash, September 29:

- A big success: splendid weather, over 200 enjoyed the canoes and kayaks. The jazz band attracted people walking on the bikepath, some asking about the band’s next concert. Kids enjoyed building birch bark canoes, making colored flags, and getting their faces painted.